

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A computer implemented method, comprising:
 - 2 (a) transmitting a print job to a printer, the printer being
 - 3 responsive to the print job by converting the print job into printed media and
 - 4 discharging the printed media into an output tray; and
 - 5 (b) displaying an indicator that indicates the identity of the
 - 6 output tray.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the printer includes a plurality of
- 2 output trays.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the indicator further indicates the
- 2 present capacity of the output tray to receive additional media.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
 - 2 (c) periodically updating the indicator while the print job is being
 - 3 printed.
- 1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein the indicator includes an image of
- 2 the output tray with media contained therein.
- 1 6. The method of claim 3, wherein the indicator includes an image of
- 2 the output tray with a stack of media contained therein and the method further
- 3 comprising:
 - 4 (c) while media is being discharged into the output tray,
 - 5 periodically updating the image so as to increase the thickness of the stack.
- 1 7. The method of claim 3, wherein the indicator includes an animated
- 2 image of the printer.

1 8. The method of claim 3, wherein step (b) includes the following
2 substeps:

3 (b.1) displaying an image of the output tray; and

4 (b.2) while the printed media is being discharged in the output
5 tray, displaying an image of media moving into the output tray.

1 9. The method of claim 3, wherein the indicator includes an image
2 and the method further comprising:

3 (c) periodically determining the present number of media in the
4 output tray; and

5 (d) when the present number is within a first pre-determined
6 range, causing the image to be displayed in a first configuration; and

7 (e) when the present number is within a second pre-determined
8 range, causing the image to be displayed in a second configuration.

1 10. The method of claim 3, wherein the indicator includes an image
2 and the method further comprising:

3 (c) periodically determining the present number of media in the
4 output tray; and

5 (d) when the present number is within a first pre-determined
6 range, causing the image to be displayed in a first color; and

7 (e) when the present number is within a second pre-determined
8 range, causing the image to be displayed in a second color.

1 11. A server, comprising:

2 (a) means for receiving a request from a client;

3 (b) means for responding to the request by transmitting a
4 program of computer readable instructions to the client, the program for
5 enabling the client to:

6 i) use a specific printer having a plurality of output trays to
7 print a document; and

8 ii) display an indicator that indicates the identity of an output
9 tray from the plurality of output trays that receives the document.

1 22. The computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein the method
2 steps further comprising:
3 displaying an indicator that indicates the present capacity of the
4 output tray to receive additional media.

1 23. The computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein the indicator
2 includes an animated image of the printer.

1 24. A printer having a plurality of output trays, comprising:
2 apparatus for responding to a request received from a client by
3 transmitting a program of computer readable instructions to the client, the
4 program for enabling the client to:
5 i) use the printer to print a document; and
6 ii) display an indicator that indicates an output tray from the
7 plurality of output trays that receives the document.

1 25. The printer of claim 24, wherein the indicator includes an image of
2 the printer.

1 26. The printer of claim 24, wherein the program is further for enabling
2 the client to inform a user the present capacity of the output tray receiving the
3 document.

1 27. The printer of claim 24, wherein the indicator includes an animated
2 image of the printer.